

# 'FINGERPRINTS' EXPOSED BY EXPERT

## Ridges to Right Give the Lie to Those to Left

(Continued from page 2)

using for a minute, and then said slowly:—

"I FAIL TO SEE HOW ANY EXPERT COULD EVER DECLARE THESE TWO PRINTS TO BE MADE OF THE SAME FINGER. WHEN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEM SHOULD BE OBVIOUS EVEN TO A LAYMAN."

In order to make adequate identification in a case where three lives, at least technically, hang in the balance, every point on the prints compared should coincide Hansen declared, adding that it would be possible—and advisable—to measure the pores BETWEEN the ridges.

### Exposed Apparent Errors

Then Hansen plunged into a detailed explanation of the points of difference between the two prints, an explanation which, strange enough, often exposed apparent errors in the "resemblances" found by the experts for the state as revealed in the morning newspaper.

With this story The GRAPHIC prints a skeletonized sketch of the two prints made by Hansen himself, a sketch which follows faithfully the salient points of the prints and uses the "key numbers" assigned to positions on the prints by the "experts" as quoted in the before-mentioned newspaper.

This sketch should aid GRAPHIC readers in following Mr. Hansen's analysis.

"The center of the 'arch' on the print taken at the time of Stevens's arrest runs toward the RIGHT," Hansen began. "On the one taken from Dr. Hall's card, however, it runs to the LEFT.

"Again, on what we may call the arrest print, the two lines above 'line three' come to an abrupt ending, whereas on the 'card print' there are two ridges, one to the right and the other to the left.

### Ridge Absolutely Absent

"On the card print there is a complete ridge under 'line two.' On the 'arrest print' THIS RIDGE IS ABSOLUTELY ABSENT.

"A count of the ridges intervening between 'line one' and 'line two' on the arrest print, shows four. On the card print there are FIVE.

"The ridge above 'line five' in the arrest print is a complete arch pattern, but on the card print the ridge has an abrupt ending—and is STRAIGHT.

"Line five' itself is on a straight ridge in the card print, but on the arrest print it is on a short ridge with an abrupt ending which RUNS DOWNWARD.

"Line six' refers to a small 'island' (a spot surrounded by ridges). THERE IS NO ISLAND VISIBLE ON THE CARD PRINT. THERE IS A SMALL RIDGE AT THAT POINT.

"To be sure, the patterns are both of the 'arch' classification, but of two distinct types.

"The fourth ridge below 'line one' on the card print comes to an abrupt ending, while the 'corresponding' line on the arrest print goes STRAIGHT ACROSS THE PRINT.

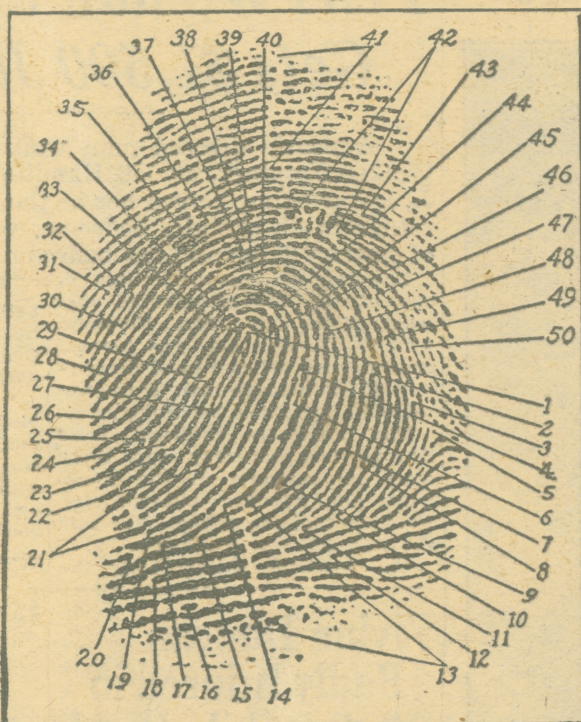
"The third ridge above 'line two' is a bi-furcated on the card print, while on the arrest print it is unbroken.

### Prints Bad Evidence

"I could go on with this almost indefinitely," Hansen declared, "but I think these points are sufficient to convince even a lay mind that if the state has nothing better than the prints reproduced here they are in a bad way.

"I can't understand it! Why, if the prosecution had had fingerprint, that ACTUALLY COMPARED a week ago they would not have needed to hold a lengthy

## Correct Fingerprint Identification



From forty to fifty points of comparison are usually required to make fingerprint identification in cases of importance conclusive. The accompanying print was used to identify a murderer who was subsequently convicted. Fingerprint identification has to be 100 per cent. conclusive to be positive. Five or six points of resemblance will not suffice.

hearing to establish a prima facie case.

"All they would have had to do would have been to have the two prints magnified 600 times and offer them in evidence to the court."

"Is it likely, The GRAPHIC reporter asked Hansen, "that ORIGINAL prints on a card which must have lain many hours in the open would have lasted FOUR YEARS?"

"No," Hansen replied. "Paper is porous. The oily secretions composing the print would have sunk into the paper. And dew or fog would undoubtedly have had its effect on the card."

"From the appearance of the reproduction," he continued, "it is apparent that the original—the card print—has merely been treated with lampblack. I do not see how this could have brought up whatever print might conceivably have remained after moisture and time had taken their toll. It would require a special process to even hope for success—a process known only to myself."

### May Have Had New Handling

"It is possible, of course, that the card has been handled since it was found at the murder scene," The GRAPHIC reporter ventured. "Yes," Hansen agreed.

The reporter then called Hansen's attention to a reproduction of the back of the calling card, which was reproduced in the morning paper.

"Could they have obtained a print from that?" he asked.

"No," the expert answered. "The prints overlap too extensively. What prints they have must come from the front of the calling card."

The front of the card was also reproduced, but not clearly enough for Hansen to identify any one smudge, as the print enlarged in the reproduction which compared the two prints constituting, according to the newspaper, evidence.

Inspector John Underwood, Prosecutor Simpson's chief investigator, told The GRAPHIC that the morning newspaper in question was not authorized to use the prints.

"They were not to have been given out to any newspaper to my knowledge," he said.

"Are they authentic?" he was asked.

"I won't say anything about that," was the reply.

### WRESTLER TO TRY SWIM

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 28 (By U. P.).—Strangler Lewis, claimant of the world's heavyweight wrestling championship, will attempt the twenty-three mile swim to Catalina Island for the \$25,000 offered by William Wrigley, Jr., to the first successful swimmer.

## Mille Gade Began Career as Child

Continued from page 3

plained. "I was thinking of the school of porpoises that insisted on accompanying me on my first attempt to swim the Channel. They had to be driven away by a motor launch."

Before her failure she had already swam from Dover to Ramsgate, a distance of twenty-two miles, in 6 hours and 20 minutes.

### Wins \$5,000 on Mille

L. Walter Lissberger of Norfolk, Conn., notified The GRAPHIC today that he had financed Mille Gade's trip.

"I won \$5,000 from Lloyds on a wager of \$100," he said with a chuckle.

"Incidentally, I have \$25,000 to wager that Mille Gade can defeat Gertrude Ederle in a long-distance swim."

"The name Mille is a contraction of Amelia," Lissberger explained.

"I know of no gamer athlete. In October last year she arose from a sick bed to break the record for the Hudson River swim from Fort Washington Point to West 96th Street.

"Dudley Field Malone, Miss Ederle's manager, may set his own figures for a wager for a long distance race between Mille and Trudy. I make but one stipulation—the bigger the sum the better."

## Trudy Lauds Feat Of Mille Gade

Continued from page 3

tell you as I do that it's 'some old journey' that takes your last ounce of vitality. I'm just as pleased as can be and I want you boys to make that as strong as can be. She deserves all the praise in the world." A pause and then—

"I hope she gets a bigger welcome than I did—but then that is impossible. But she's entitled to one as big. And I'll be right there to personally welcome her home—home to good Little Old New York."

### Pats Urchins

Through the throng that swarmed about her came two little barefoot urchins of the water front—attracted by the unusual crowd and the excitement.

"You little dears," said Trudy, and both got a delightful pat of affection on each tiny shoulder.

"I was all in," she went on, "when I turned in last night. I dreamed all night of shaking

## Tells Shylock 'Holy Dice' Can Solve Hall Mystery

By SHYLOCK HOMES

(Copyright, 1926, The New York Evening GRAPHIC. Reproduction prohibited.)

"Dr. Hall and Mrs. Mills were not slain at the crab-apple tree, where their bodies were found—they were murdered at a different hour of the night and their bodies put there by persons not yet mentioned in the case."

That is part of the very interesting "solution" that reached me this morning from George F. O'Brien of 400 West 37th St.

I handed the letter to Watson and my confrere since the days of our early beginnings in criminology read it with keen interest.

"My dear Shylock Homes," he said after complete perusal. "Did you read where Mr. O'Brien believes that Mrs. Mills's neck wounds were not made by a knife, but by a crawling snake or some animal?"

"I was just testing you," was my chuckling reply, "to see if your alert mind would discern the significance of that. You are as discerning as you ever were in all of our excursions into crime from our Baker Street lodgings."

I have before me a letter from Ernest R. Stein of 138 Meserole St., Brooklyn, who cites Isaiah XXX; 1-2 and Proverbs XVIII: 18 and XVI: 33 for Biblical support of his suggestion.

### Aided by Die

"Take the Hall-Mills case before a priest," he writes. "One that carries the die of a priest. I am a priest and I have such a die. There are six sides, as you know, to a die. Two sides are marked with the letter 'N'—signifying no. Two sides with a 'Y'—yes. Two sides blank—no answer.

hands. Gee, but it's good to be back home with 'Mom' again—and her cooking. Oh, boy. We're off for lunch at home right now."

"Your itinerary?" was the big question then—

"Right after lunch I am to go to 'Uncle Dudley's' home at 610 Park Avenue, where, as they say in London, I am to 'meet the press.' Then I suppose I'll look over some of the contracts that have been offered me.

"Oh, I'm so happy. Wasn't the reception that my 'Old Home Town' gave me something gorgeous? Why, you can't express it in words.

"Do you know, when I got into my own room at home at last at 1 o'clock this morning, I cried—cried tears of joy. To think that all New York loved me so. Why, I love every bit of this great, big, pulsing city. Who could say that New York is cold—it's just got the biggest heart of any city in the wide, wide world. I'd like to kiss every one and give them a big hug besides. Aren't New Yorkers just wonderful?"

A springy step at departure. Her luggage loaded into their car. A mighty roar of approval from the throngs outside of the pier. She tossed them a kiss and turning to the newspaper cortege that followed she cried:—

"Three cheers for Mille Gade!"

Conveyed by a motorcycle escort of police to break the way, Trudy rode back home in state—as befitting the champion of champions.

## Second Woman Swims Channel

(Continued from Page 3)

woman where only one woman had succeeded and many men had failed.

The crowd grew bigger as Perks gave up the fight, and Mrs. Corson

"I can solve this case—or any other case. I throw the die and then invoke the Lord. It is He and He alone that answers. If He desires the answer 'Yes' to a question I propose, the Lord will see to it that the die comes with a 'Y' side up. In the same way the 'N' side for a 'No,' and a blank side for a question the Lord in His supreme judgment withholds the answer."

### Many Letters Received

How the letters pour in to me—from the compass points. East and West and North and South.

"As Dr. Hall was guilty in life, he is also guilty of the double murder," writes Mrs. Brook Curry, of 547 West 147th St., New York city. "He killed Mrs. Mills and then committed suicide."

Remember, there is but a little more than a month remaining before I close my investigation. Send in your "solutions"—as many as you wish.

You know my offer—\$1,000 in gold given away.

The first correct solution of the Hall-Mills case that comes to The GRAPHIC will receive \$500. Then additional awards of \$250, \$100, \$50 and \$10, until the \$1,000 is exhausted. The correct solution will be based on court findings. You may send in as many solutions as you wish. None received after October 2. Address your letter to SHYLOCK HOMES, The GRAPHIC, 25 City Hall Place, Manhattan.

drew into shoal water, her blond unbobbed head plunging through the surf. The scene of her landing was a triumphant one.

### Sings Jazzy Songs for Her

Louis Timson of Boston was in the party which accompanied Mrs. Corson and he helped keep her spirits up during the night by singing American jazz songs. Every two hours the swimmer was fed lumps of sugar, cocoa and biscuits.

"The last two hours," said Timson, "were a hard fight. Her strength was being exhausted. She used the American crawl stroke throughout and up to a few hours off the English coast it looked like she would beat Gertrude Ederle's record. She would have done so but for an unusually strong ebb tide which carried her westward and away from a chance at the record."

Miss Lillian Cannon of Baltimore, who was reported to have considered another attempt, went to bed after wishing the swimmers good luck.

Although it had seemed, as she neared the beach, that she might break Gertrude Ederle's record of 14 hours and 31 minutes, her time was more than 15 hours.

She did, however, beat the best record established by a man, that of Sebastian Tirabochi, Argentine swimmer, who crossed the channel in 16 hours and 23 minutes.

Mrs. Corson, Danish-American swimmer, is better known by her American name of Amelia Gade. In 1921 she swam around Manhattan Island, and later swam the Hudson River from Albany to New York. She is 27.

### MARINES IN NICARAGUA

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28 (By U. P.).—Two hundred American sailors and marines have been landed from the U. S. cruiser Galveston at Bluefields, Nicaragua, to protect American lives and property.